# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HOME AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1633
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Sale of Preactivated SIM Cards
Charitra Shri Ram

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a large number of cases were reported across the country regarding selling of preactivated SIM cards to ISI spies and others;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken to prevent such sale of SIM cards to unauthorized persons?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Instances of sale of pre-activated SIM cards by the Telecom Service Providers have been reported from different parts of the country. As and when such instances come to the notice of security / intelligence agencies, they initiate action under the relevant provisions of law and also inform the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for necessary action in the matter.
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The Government of India has issued instructions vide DoT letter no. 800-09/20010-VAS dated 9th August, 2012, on verification of new mobile subscribers to all the Telecom Service Providers. As per these instructions, pre-activated SIM Card is not to be sold. In case of sale of pre-activated SIM cards, in addition to immediate disconnection of such mobile connection, a penalty of Rs. 50,000/- per such connection is also levied on the Telecom Service Provider.

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